

Draft
CenSARA
Conference Call Minutes
2:00-3:00 p.m. (Central Time)
December 11th, 2019

Participants:	
States	
Arkansas	
Iowa	Catharine Fitzsimmons
Kansas	
Louisiana	Vivian Aucoin
Missouri	Darcy Bybee
Nebraska	
Oklahoma	Beverly Botchlett-Smith, Madison Miller
Texas	Kim Herndon
Locals	
City of El Paso	
City of Houston	Isaac DeSouza
United Government of Wyandotte County- Kansas City, KS	
St. Louis County	
Johnson County Environmental Dept.	
Linn County, Iowa	
City of Omaha, NE	Tim Burns
Guests	
EPA Region 6	Guy Donaldson, Jeff Robinson
EPA Region 7	Mike Jay, Amy Algoe-Eakin
CenSARA	Michael Vince, Ron Hensley, DeAnna Scofield

The meeting was called to order by Vivian Aucoin (LA), Board Vice-Chairperson, and roll taken.

Approval of the CenSARA Fall Business Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the CenSARA Fall Business Meeting – October 2nd – 3rd, 2019 were reviewed. The group discussed revisions that need to be made to the minutes. Tim Burns (Omaha) made note of a typographical error regarding the ODEQ building lease, and when the topic will be revisited by the group. Darcy Bybee (MO) made note of typographical errors and phrasing, regarding her comments about Missouri's NAACA and AAPCA memberships. The group agreed on adding a generalized statement about the Volkswagen discussions during the Roundtable, as the discussion was not captured due to technical issues.

A motion was made by Beverly Botchlett-Smith (OK) to accept the minutes, pending revisions per the group's discussion. Catharine Fitzsimmons (IA) seconded the motion. There were no dissensions or abstentions and the motion carried.

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EPA Region 6 and Region 7 – Regional Updates

Mike Jay (EPA Region 7) - Region 7 is working to achieve 44 final actions this year. They've put steps in place and are working very hard to meet this goal. Most notable is the Ethanol Proposal, that affect four states in their region and will impact every region having states that adopted the 2007 rule that revised the definition of chemical process plants regarding ethanol production to exclude them from the named list. This would ultimately mean that ethanol plants are only covered up until 250 tons per year of emissions. Those are the oldest SIPs in the nation for most regions, and they are hoping this action demonstrates that in Region 7, for those states that have implemented this rule, the air quality results demonstrate that air quality has not been impacted by that revision and that, in fact, the air quality has improved. They believe there is the rationale to go ahead and approve those SIPs. They are granting the petition that dealt with the litigation for non-attainment areas, where they were asked to reconsider this rule and non-attainment areas. This would not affect any non-attainment area anywhere else in the country because they're granting that petition, but for Region 7 they will allow all ethanol plants affected by this rule to benefit from it, depending on when they were permitted. They've gotten 10 final actions done so far this year. Three of those are in Missouri that deal with CAIR Rule actions on the annual training program for NOx/Ozone season and training program. They have seven actions in Iowa, one of which is a final action that involved the removal of an across state FIP for BART and adopted it into the SIP. They were able to address several Iowa SIPs that have been upheld for some time due to that.

Mike went on to address Sub-Leads within their region, specially Air Toxics for a two-year stent as well as an NSR PSD. In the spring they are planning on working with NAACA to schedule a training on Air Toxics. That is something that they hope the states will participate in, and they will be going through NAACA to get the state's input. He also made not of another round of community scale air toxics monitoring grant awards to made available in late January. They are seeking good projects from local government, non-profits, anything on innovative monitoring or analysis of samples of emerging pollutants that can include ETO or PFAS but are not limited to those. Mike encouraged everyone to inform their local agencies, or local non-profits that may be able to submit a good proposal. Tim Burns (Omaha) asked if agencies that were not members of NAACA were going to be included in the upcoming training. Mike said he didn't see any reason they wouldn't be, but he would get some clarification and let Tim know for sure.

Amy Algoe-Eakin (EPA Region 7) – From the permitting and standards side of Region 7 – Mike is sub-lead for air toxics and Region 7 is sub-lead for NSR. John Nodal and Ward Burn have been taking on coordination among EPA. They should be reaching out to permitting staff in Region 7 states to see how different types of policies might be implemented or not. So, if that hasn't already been done, she asked that everyone keep that in mind that the sub-lead stents last two years and that Region 7 has taken on leadership for NSR. Amy also mentioned that they will begin plaining another permitting workshop in 2020, and after the first of the year they'll be reaching out to stakeholders to get started on planning for that event.

Commented [DS1]: Spelling?

Mike Jay (Region 7) – On December 9th they posted a request for DERA applications to provide assistance to eligible fleets retrofitting or replacing old vehicles powered by diesel. Applications are due by February 26th for those. He also made mention of the state DERA programs, for state's who are provided funds from EPA to implement their own DERA programs. Those application and workplans will be due by June 5th. They are currently monitoring eight active grants.

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Jeff Robinson (EPA Region 6) – Air directors may be receiving letters or courtesy copies of letters where EPA is doing Section 114 information requests for sterilizers. He also said that they are doing the work and are prepared to work in conjunction with OAQPS to do the public hearing on January 14th in Houston, TX. Vivian Aucoin (LA) asked for clarification on the Section 114 sterilizer letters, about if the letters were being sent to the facilities or the state agencies. Jeff clarified that the facilities were receiving the letters, and the state Air Directors were receiving a courtesy copy of those letters for their reference.

Guy Donaldson (EPA Region 6) – All of the Region 6 states either received a letter or an email from either the Regional Administrator or David Garcia regarding SIP management. If you are backlogged eight or nine SIPs, then written correspondence is required. There is even more emphasis on addressing the SIP backlog. They have received scrutiny from Headquarters, and they will have to start reporting on the metrics of their SIP processing times. So, they have sent out letters regarding SIP management plans. If anyone has any concerns, they can contact Guy or his staff to discuss further. Guy also made note that Arkansas has zero backlog.

Based on a Doodle survey sent out, it appears that the Region 6 State Director's meeting will be held the week of March 9th, 2020. Guy will get something definite sent out next week.

Regarding actions; They proposed an action on several permitting SIP provisions for Oklahoma. They also took an action on the 2008 Ozone Transports SIP for New Mexico and Albuquerque. It looks like they may get some adverse comments on that because some have asked for the comment period to be extended. They also proposed action and had a public hearing on the Texas Bart FIP. It was a very sparsely attended hearing and they only had five commenters, though Guy doesn't necessarily think that is any indication of what kind of written comments they'll receive. In January, they are hoping to finalize two actions on the Houston re-designation. It took a little longer than they had anticipated to make policy changes that would work. Shortly after that they expect the DFW re-designation to be finalized as well. By the end of December, they are hoping to finalize their action withdrawing the Texas SSM SIP Call, though it may be January before it is finalized. They also have an Albuquerque Permitting Action that is slated to be finalized this month. They are also planning to propose the withdrawal of Stage 2 for Louisiana, and that looks like it will be completed this month as well. They also have the Oklahoma ICE Infrastructure SIP targeted for this month. Vivian Aucoin (LA) asked that Guy send her the SIP Management Plan letter directly, just in case there might have been an issue with delivery due to technical difficulties they have been experiencing.

CenSARA Training Update

Ron Hensley gave the update.

In October there were two courses scheduled. Those courses were 260 CenSARA – Effective Powerpoint and 508 Compliance – October 1st – 2nd in Topeka, KS and APTI #452 – Principles and Practices of Air Pollution – October 22nd – 24th in Austin, TX. Both courses received an evaluation of 4.19 higher.

In November there were no courses scheduled.

In December, there are three courses scheduled. Those courses are 210 CenSARA – Technical Writing – December 2nd – 3rd and December 4th – 5th in Austin, TX and 310 CenSARA – Forms (Properties, Events and VBA) – December 9th – 10th in Jefferson City, MO. The Austin courses

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received an evaluation of 4.5 and 4.75. The evaluations for the 310CenSARA course were not available yet.

In the month of January there are five courses scheduled. Those courses are 240 CenSARA – Statistics Using Excel – January 13th – 14th in Jefferson City, MO; 260CenSARA – Effective Powerpoint and 508 Compliance – January 22nd – 23rd in Austin, TX; NACT #261 – Polyester, Epoxy, Resin, Fiber Gas, NACT #246 – Aggregate Concrete and Hot Mix Asphalt Plants and NACT # 224 – January 28th – 31st in Topeka, KS.

Ron said that they had experienced some issue with course reminder emails for Texas and Missouri. The servers were blocking the emails. They were able to fix the issue with Texas but were still working to resolve the issues with Missouri.

Michael Vince briefly discussed the training budget. It looks as though there will be about \$30k in funds left after all the schedule courses for the FY20. Once they get a actual costs of some of the earlier scheduled courses, it is possible that CenSARA will add more courses from the states wish list's to the course schedule, in order to spend as much of the training budget as possible before the end of the grant cycle.

CenSARA Financial Update

DeAnna Scofield gave a brief update regarding the financial activities for CenSARA through December 2019. There were no significant issues to discuss, as it is still early in the fiscal year and expenditures were in line with the budget to date. The auditing contract was rebid in October and Muret CPA, LLC was selected once again for a three-year contract. The amount of the auditing bid stayed the same as the previous three years. Healthcare was also rebid this month and DeAnna is currently reviewing the different plans before recommending which plan would be best to continue with. DeAnna made note that the National Regional Haze meeting came in right at the budgeted amount. The annual audit has kicked off and DeAnna will be working with the auditors to supply them with their initial request for documentation before the end of the month. Darcy Bybee (MO) asked if the auditors would be contacting her, as she is the Board Treasurer and they did not make contact the previous year as told. DeAnna said that the auditors did ask and have Darcy's contact information, though she is unsure why they didn't follow up with Darcy directly. For clarification, DeAnna will contact the auditors and see if they need to speak with Darcy regarding her role as the treasurer. Darcy will also keep CenSARA staff informed if the auditor's make or do not make contact this year

National Regional Haze Meeting

Michael Vince gave the update. CenSARA received \$15,000 from EPA Region 6 to help pay for the meeting expenses. There were about 110 people that attended, and the feedback received was very positive, so Michael considers the meeting to have been an overall success. The total amount spent for the meeting was around \$14,600, and CenSARA was able to sponsor travel for several staff members to attend with the funds as well.

Office Activities

Michael Vince has been in discussion with ODEQ management regarding the office space and requirements they would have if CenSARA were to move into a smaller office space. Michael made management aware that if they had a use for the space, CenSARA was willing to relinquish some of the current office space or move into a smaller office space entirely. He expects to hear back from them after the holidays and will keep the Board updated on the

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progress of those discussions. The lease is up for renewal in February 2020 and Michael is hopeful to have a decision made before then.

After several months of research, CenSARA has finally begun transitioning the phone and internet services from Cox Communications to AT&T for internet and to RingCentral for VoIP telephone services. There are still a few things that need to be completed to fully transition to AT&T but the transition to RingCentral is complete and appears to have gone smoothly. After the first of the new year, Michael will begin trying out some of the additional features of RingCentral, such as conferencing, and hopefully can cancel some of the other services, such as Turnbridge for conference calling.

Fall Meeting 2020

Michael briefly discussed logistics for the CenSARA Fall Business Meeting, tentatively planned for Dallas, TX in the Fall of 2020. It was agreed that the meeting would be two full consecutive days, instead of 3 days as in previous years. Michael also discussed potential dates for the meeting and known conflicts on the Calendar already, such as the AAPCA Fall meeting and other National/Regional events slated for the same timeframe. Michael and DeAnna will begin to research the Dallas area and get an RFP released for the meeting as soon as possible.

State and Local Updates (Open Discussion)

Kim Herndon (TX) – informed the Board that she will be retiring effective December 31st, 2019. She does not know who will take her place on the calls, but as soon as they know they will let Michael know.

Michael Vince recently shared with the group the Environmental Integrity Report. Michael read through the report and while some of the information is accurate, there appears to be some inaccuracies as well, which makes it hard for Michael to take the report seriously. Michael wondered what Texas and Louisiana thought of the report, and if they may be responding. Vivian Aucoin (LA) had read the report but didn't know what Louisiana was doing, but she will get with other staff who may have more information on their end. Kim Herndon (TX) has not seen or heard anything about it yet, but she will also check around with other people on her end. Darcy Bybee (MO) said that the St. Louis Post had released an article regarding the report, and she also noted a discrepancy in the funding figures.

Other Highlights (open mic)

The next CenSARA Board of Director's call is scheduled for the second week of February 2020. However, it appears that there will be a Joint Training Committee meeting with the MJO Executive Directors and EPA staff in Raleigh, NC the week of February 11th. Michael asked that the next Board call be re-scheduled for February 19th, 2020. The group agreed to move the next call. Michael will update the calendar and send out a new invite.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is the CenSARA Conference Call – February 19th, 2020 at 2:00pm – 3:00pm CST.

Darcy Bybee (MO) made a motion to adjourn the call.
Tim Burns (City of Omaha) seconded the motion to adjourn.

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